

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 020553

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /007 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/C:APALMER:OSM

APPROVED BY: AF/C:WLCUTLER

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R 291425Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 020553

FOLLOWING REPEAT KINSHASA 775 INFO BRUSSELS SECSTATE DATED 1/28/75;

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINSHASA 0775

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CG, CVIS

SUBJECT: ZAIRE'S NEW VISA REGULATIONS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: 1. WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE TO EMBASSIES HERE, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON JANUARY 16 SENT CIRCULAR TO ZAIRIAN EMBASSIES STATING THAT CLEARANCE FROM KINSHASA MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF VISAS, (SUBSEQUENT CLARIFICATION PROVIDES DIPLOMATIC VISAS MAY BE ISSUED WITH 48 HOURS PRIOR NOTICE). FORNMIN BULA HAS BEEN PREOCCUPIED WITH AAI CONFERENCE AND HAS NOT BEEN AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT ON RATIONALE FOR NEW PROCEDURES. MIDDLE LEVEL OF FOREIGN MINISTRY IS IN TURMOIL. WORKING LEVEL HAS STATED GENERAL POLICY DIRECTIVE HAS BEEN HANDED DOWN AND DEPT. NOW BEGINNING TO DEVELOP MODALITIES FOR ISSUING CLEARANCES. IN THIS SITUATION, IT IS CLEAR THAT SUBSTANTIAL DELAYS WILL DEVELOP BETWEEN APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST DEPARTMENT NOTIFY ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS THAT GOZ HAS CHANGED VISA REGULATIONS AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DELAYS CAN BE EXPECTED. ZAIRE REQUIRES ALL TRAVELLERS TO BE IN

POSSESSION OF VALID VISA UPON ARRIVAL. AIRPORT VISAS ARE
NOT REPEAT NOT ISSUED. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: FYI: RE PARA 3 STATE 17518, IT IS
STILL POSSIBLE FOR US CITIZENS WITHOUT A VISA TO BE PAROLED INTO
ZAIRE FOR MAXIMUM OF 48 HOURS BY LEAVING PASSPORT AT AIRPORT.
THIS SITUATION, HOWEVER, COULD CHANGE WITHOUT WARNING. ALTHOUGH
UNCLEAR, WE BELIEVE EMBASSY CAN ARRANGE VISAS FOR HOLDERS OF
DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL PASSPORTS WHO HAVE BEEN PAROLED.
HOWEVER, THIS PROCEDURE REQUIRES INORDINATE INVESTMENT TIME
OF EMBASSY'S ONLY CONSULAR OFFICER AND SHOULD BE TRIED ONLY
WHEN ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. END FYI. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE020553
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/C:APALMER:OSM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750033-0645
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750110/aaaaaiel.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ZAIRE'S NEW VISA REGULATIONS BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: 1. WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE TO EMBASSIES HERE
TAGS: CVIS, CG
To: BANGUI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006